

***Remarks***

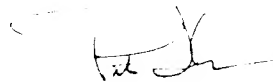
Claims 32-45 are sought to be canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-31 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 17 being the independent claims. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

***Conclusion***

It is believed that the application is in condition for examination. Consideration and allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Peter A. Jackman  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 45,986

Date: Jan 10, 2002

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600

**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**

***In the Claims:***

Claims 32-45 were canceled.